

Ureteroscopy & Stone Fragmentation- **Patient Information Brochure**

What does this procedure involve?

This procedure involves passing a very thin telescope (ureteroscope) into the urethra & bladder & then into the ureter to reach a stone that may be in the ureter or the kidney.

Through the ureteroscope the stone can be broken down (fragmented) into tiny pieces using a tiny laser fibre. The fragmented pieces of stone are either flushed out of the body during the procedure or will pass out of the body after the procedure.

A ureteric stent is routinely placed when a ureteroscopy is performed.

The timing of removal of the ureteric stent will vary depending on the problem that you are having treatment for.

The ureteroscopy procedure is carried out under a general anesthetic with intravenous antibiotics given at the time of the procedure. It can be either day case surgery (most common) or sometimes a patient may be required to stay overnight after the procedure.

Sometimes a patient may not be able to have their stone fragmented at the same operation when they have their initial ureteroscopy & stent insertion, for clinical reasons. In this case the patient will need to come back to hospital to have their stone fragmented on a separate hospital admission.

For information on Ureteric Stent Insertion– Refer to Stent Information Brochure

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What can I expect after my ureteroscopy?

It is common to experience, burning on urination or see blood in the urine after the procedure. Ensure you drink plenty of water & urinate regularly & these symptoms will usually settle down within the next few days. Taking Ural sachets may help to reduce the burning sensation.

Pain relief medications such as paracetamol & anti-inflammatories such as (Nurofen or Voltaren) may also help.

Some patients may develop an infection after their procedure- if you feel feverish or unwell, please contact our office or consult your GP asap.

It is also common to experience “stent irritation symptoms” - such as feeling of ‘needing to urinate frequently’, pain in the kidney area & seeing blood & clots in the urine. These symptoms can last for the entire time that the stent is in the body & they settle down after the stent is removed. You will be given a follow-up appointment with Dr Raj to discuss the results of your operation & to book an appointment for your stent removal.

Removal of ureteric stent is usually performed under local anesthetic so you will be awake for the procedure.

If you prefer to have your stent removed while you are asleep (under a general anesthetic) please inform DR Raj prior to your procedure date for stent removal.